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b) positioning a preform comprising a thermoplastic material in the female mold,
c) expanding the preform so as to obtain an apparatus having a bent-back segment for inserting the fastening hook, and
d) removing the apparatus from the mold and finishing the apparatus and comprising one or more fastening hook, wherein the fastening hook is inserted into the bent-back segment of the apparatus.

Please add new claims 37-40 as follows:

Sub 17

-- 37. (New) The process according to claim 21 wherein the finishing step of d) comprises anchoring the fastening hooks to an orthodontic or dento-facial orthopedic apparatus by means for supplying electrical heating energy and stable positioning of the fastening hook for anchoring to the apparatus.

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Sub 17
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38. (New) The process according to claim 29 wherein the electrical energy is supplied by a hand-held, portable current generator.

39. (New) The process according to claim 29 wherein the stable mechanical positioning is performed with the distal ends of electrical conductors having a clamp shape, and the distal ends are adapted to the diameter of a wire or to a shape of the hook to be inserted.

40. (New) The process according to claim 29 wherein the electrical energy is supplied by a gun that mechanically holds a pair of rigid electrical conductors connected by flexible conductors to a fixed generator. --